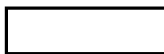


Mr. Colby:

Herewith the West European paper. If possible, all the West European types out here (self included) would like you to say in conversation that the question which ought to be asked is a policy rather than intelligence one -- i.e., not what are the West Europeans willing to do for us in return for our defense guarantee, but how important is the defense of Western Europe to the United States? We repeatedly have said -- and the Europeans have been only too happy to believe -- that America's own physical security and economic well being, even in the narrowest sense, demanded the defense (and the confidence that it would be defended) of Western Europe. If the policy makers have changed their minds about that, all sorts of other policy questions would become simpler.



STAT

Keith. He is a subject for
Harry & I were discussing last
evening. We all agree the point
should be made, & since it can be
properly be written into an "intelligence"
paper. I thought the suggestion
might help.